

[Translation]

Withdrawal of restrictions on Export of Agriculture Produce

4955 SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farmers organisations in Maharashtra had launched 'Rasta Roko' agitation in more than 500 places with a view to raise their voice against the restrictions imposed on the export of agriculture produce;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to withdraw the restrictions imposed on the agriculture produce;

(c) if so, details thereof, and

(d) if not the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) No, sir.

(b) to (d). Except in case of certain items of mass consumption there are no restrictions on exports of farm products. In fact Government is keen to promote exports of farms products and has provided various incentives.

Opium recovered from growers in Uttar Pradesh

4956. SHRI LAKSHMI NARAIN MANI TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of opium recovered during each of the last three years from the opium growers in Barabanki district of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of opium growers deprived of getting opium licences with the result of this recovery; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to provide relief to such farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) the value of opium recovered during each of the last three years from the Opium growers in Barabanki District of U.P. is as under:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Value of Opium recovered</i>
1988-89	Rs 2,23,341/-
1989-90	Rs 6,57,341/-
1990-91	Rs. 2,07,990/-

(b) the recovery of payment from the cultivators in these cases was made on account of difference in the yield of opium tendered by the cultivators as determined by handparakh initially and by factory analysis, subsequently. As the cultivators are initially paid 90% of the price of the yield of opium tendered by them on the basis of handparakh, the excess amount paid to them is liable to recovery if their yield of opium is found to be less on the basis of subsequent factory analysis.

(c) The number of opium growers deprived of getting opium licences with the result of this recovery are as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of cultivators de-licensed.</i>
1988-89	239
1989-90	203
1990-91	226